

many people spend their lives building careers, teachers spend their careers building lives. For this they deserve our support, praise and gratitude.

One teacher in particular deserves special recognition, Sister Mary Michel. After 58 years of touching the lives of countless children she has entered into retirement. Sister Michel has truly been a valued asset to those students, both in my district and the entire State of Ohio, in which she has been in contact. The children she has taught will become our future leaders, scientists, and teachers.

Sister Michel's long and distinguished career began in the same area where she grew up, as a native of Sandusky, Ohio. After receiving her degree from Mary Manse College in Toledo, Ohio, and completing graduate work at St. Louis (Missouri) University, Sister Michel returned to the area to begin teaching elementary school at St. Mary Catholic School in Toledo. From that monumental day in 1944, Sister Michel has since served as an administrator and an intermediate schoolteacher. Until her recent retirement, Sister Michel spent the last 18 years educating the children of St. John Elementary in Delphos, Ohio. Not only is Sister Michel a remarkable teacher, but she also is a woman of deep faith who has been greatly involved in the parish communities of which she has served.

Year after year professionals dedicate their lives to the future of America. There is no more important, or challenging, job than that of our nation's teachers. The job of a teacher is to open a child's mind to the magic of ideas, knowledge, and dreams. Also, teachers are the true guardians of American democracy by instilling a sense of citizenship in the children they teach. Teachers not only educate but also act as listeners, facilitators, role models, and mentors, encouraging our children to reach further than they would have thought possible. Teachers continue to influence us long after our school days are only memories.

Mr. Speaker, I would ask my colleagues to join me in paying special tribute to Sister Mary Michel. Numerous school children have been served well through the diligence and determination of dedicated teachers, like Sister Michel, who dedicate their lives to educating our youth. I am confident that Sister Michel will continue to serve her community and positively influence others around her. We wish her the very best on this special occasion.

TRIBUTE TO FRED SHONEMAN

HON. NORMAN D. DICKS

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 24, 2002

Mr. DICKS. Mr. Speaker, earlier this month one of the most visionary builders of my home community of Bremerton died, leaving a legacy of public works improvements that made the City a better place in which to live and work. Fred S. Shoneman spent the early part of his career working for the City of Bremerton, serving for a long tenure as the Public Works Commissioner. Later he served for many years as a Commissioner of the Port of Bremerton. During this time, I enjoyed working with him and I was always impressed by his vision and his desire to solve problems that confront cities in transition such as Bremerton.

Fred loved Bremerton for what it was, and even more importantly for what it could be—and that was the secret of his vision. As Public Works Commissioner, he oversaw the locations of bridges that were essential for the growth of the city and its major public employer, Puget Sound Naval Shipyard. He took care of the public works needs of our neighborhoods and small business districts, and he made sure the city's infrastructure was kept up to date. His later contributions as Port Commissioner represented an era of growth for Bremerton National Airport as well as a time of substantial new construction at the marinas. In all of these works he was serving the public: he was a man who was constantly available and seeking input from citizens in order to do his job better. What was most remarkable about Fred, and what was certainly evident at the Memorial Service held at the Manette Community Church, was his positive attitude that was almost contagious. Everyone who worked with him and around him appreciated the way he was always more focused on how we CAN get things done, rather thinking up reasons why we should not. So in addition to his legacy of public works, Mr. Speaker, I wanted to note today in the House of Representatives that Fred Shoneman has also left a great legacy of friendship in Bremerton. I am proud to say that I was among those who knew him, who worked with him, and who are greatly saddened by his passing. I would like to enter into the Record the full text of the news story in *The Sun*, Bremerton's daily newspaper, noting how much Fred left an indelible mark on our city.

CIVIC ICON LEFT MARK ON CITY

(By Elena Castañeda)

Long-time Bremerton public servant Fred Shoneman died Saturday.

The 88-year-old succumbed to complications from asbestosis, a lung disease, son Noel Shoneman said.

As word spread Monday of Shoneman's death, his friends and family recalled his sense of humor, love of music and persistent work ethic.

"He was a great friend and a great friend to the city of Bremerton," said local attorney Gordon Walgren.

A city of Bremerton employee for 31 years and Port of Bremerton commissioner for 12 years, Shoneman left his mark all over the city, most notably with the Fred S. Shoneman Overpass that connects 11th Street to Kitsap Way in Bremerton.

Shoneman worked for the city as a field engineer, then a street superintendent and finally served as Bremerton's public works commissioner from 1960 to 1978. His projects included the original layout of the Warren Avenue Bridge and the city's first two sewer treatment plants in 1948.

He oversaw creation of Gold Mountain Golf Course, widely known as one of the best public golf courses in the state.

Shoneman also served as a Port of Bremerton commissioner in two eras, first in the late 1970s and again from 1986 to 1997. During his tenure, the port made more than \$4 million in improvements to Bremerton National Airport and constructed the Bremerton and Port Orchard marinas.

Sometimes, his plans didn't work out. There was a proposal to build a bridge to Seattle and develop a downtown shopping mall.

"He was a very long-range thinker, a visionary," said Ken Attebery, chief executive officer of the Port of Bremerton. "He was a kind and supportive person to the staff he worked with here."

Shoneman stood more than 6-feet tall, bringing a commanding presence into the many board, foundation and club meetings he attended.

"He walked into a room and people knew he was there," Walgren said.

Port Commissioner Mary Ann Huntington said Shoneman "loved Bremerton more than anything else."

Huntington served with Shoneman, giving him his first experience at working with a woman who was his equal, she said.

"He wasn't excited to serve with a woman," Huntington said. "He didn't like women in politics. But we grew very fond of each other."

Music was a passion for Shoneman, from his carillon bells that chime in downtown Bremerton, to his talents playing the accordion, harmonica, piano, organ and mandolin.

"He would take his accordion to conferences and entertain us with it in the evenings," Huntington said.

Shoneman collected life-affirming expressions.

One written on the board room wall where he held public works meetings read, "Be not concerned, nor be surprised, if what you do is criticized."

Son Noel said his father prepared family members for his death in recent weeks by bringing them to his apartment at Canterbury Manor for one-on-one talks.

He remembered life growing up in the Shoneman house as "busy," but his father "always found time for family. It was at least a weekly event going to the local parks."

Shoneman knew sadness in his life, too. His first wife, Margaret, passed away in 1972.

Shoneman is survived by his second wife, Katherine Lee Shoneman of Bremerton. Other survivors include one sister, Alice Myhre of Bremerton; one son, Noel, of Sammamish; three daughters, Mary Whitaker of Seabeck, and Sue Brannon and Ellen Coombe of Bremerton; three step-children, Casimir Farley of France, Sandy Schumacher of Bremerton and Don Smith of Seattle; and six grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

A memorial service is planned for 1 p.m. July 11 at Manette Community Church, in the same neighborhood where he raised his family.

ALLAN P. KIRBY, JR. RECEIVES "OTHERS" AWARD FROM SALVATION ARMY

HON. PAUL E. KANJORSKI

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 24, 2002

Mr. KANJORSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to call the attention of the House of Representatives to the well deserved recognition that my good friend Mr. Allan P. Kirby, Jr. recently received from the Salvation Army of the Greater Wyoming Valley Area.

Allan received the Salvation Army's "OTHERS" Award, which was presented in the area for the first time and is given to an individual or entity that has contributed substantially to the benefit of others.

He was presented with the award at the local Salvation Army's First Annual Community Recognition Dinner. The dinner's purpose is to raise money for the Kirby Family House, which is a transitional housing program for homeless people looking to make a better life for themselves through a series of classes, self-help